



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARYVILLE BABYSITTER SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Maryville, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for advertising child pornography over the Internet.

Gerald Wallace Gordon, 54, of Maryville, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this morning to 15 years in federal prison without parole. **Gordon** was employed as a babysitter.

“Our families and children are safer with this lifelong pedophile behind bars,” said Graves. “**Gordon** not only collected child porn, but actively advertised for others to get involved in swapping child pornography. This case is disturbing, not only because of the large volume of photos and videos that were in his possession, but also because of the especially offensive portrayals of children and the fact that Gordon was a child care worker.”

On Jan. 15, 2004, **Gordon** pleaded guilty to publishing a notice on Aug. 8, 2003, offering to display, distribute and reproduce child pornography on the Internet.

Gordon was involved in several Yahoo! Groups that shared child pornography among their members, Graves said, including at least one group that he created and two group in which he served as a moderator. **Gordon** posted child pornography to the online group, as well as messages inviting group members to exchange additional child pornography.

Investigators seized computers along with floppy disks and CDs containing more than 2,700 images of child pornography from **Gordon's** home, Graves said. These include images of child bondage, bestiality, and infants. Most of the victims appear to be under 12 years of age.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Katharine Fincham. It was

investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow